

**R marks**

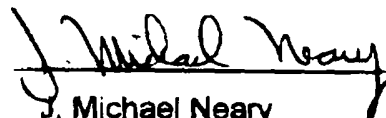
Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application as amended herein.

Applicant appreciatively acknowledges the Examiner's constructive suggestions in Paragraph 7 of the outstanding Office Action. Applicant has adopted both of the Examiner's suggestions for revision to claims 1 and 12-16 to distinguish over Bichler and more clearly define the invention.

Applicant has canceled claim 17 rather than amend it along the lines of claims 1 and 12 to avoid raising new issues, since the Examiner did not indicate that claim 17 amended in this way would be patentable.

Applicant believes his claims as amended herein are patentable over the references cited by the Examiner. If the Examiner, after reconsideration of this application and the amended claims herein, concurs that they are indeed patentable, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,



J. Michael Neary  
Attorney for Applicant  
Reg. No. 25,453

542 SW 298<sup>th</sup> Street  
Federal Way, Washington 98023  
voice: (253) 941-7683; fax: (253) 941-3623